

HEATH'S

INFALLIBLE

COUNTERFEIT



DETECTOR

AT SIGHT

BY AUTHORITY FROM THE
UNITED STATES TREASURY DEPARTMENT

Pocket Edition



HEATH, LABAN

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Heath's Greatly Improved and Enlarged Infallible Government Counterfeit Detector, Third Edition Revised & Corrected (Boston & Washington, n.d.) Copyright 1870, 40 numbered pp. including 10 pp. of ads etc. \$100 Boston ctf, \$50 1862 U.S. Note ctf, \$10 Phila (listed on p.11 as plate 12, 13 & 14 & on p. 28 as 13, 14 & 15 but \$50 ctf inserted instead of \$20), double fract. curr., 2,3,4,5,6,7 written over 8, 8 written over 9, 9 written over 10, 10 over 11, 11 written over 17. Sections not numbered except

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HEATH'S

GREATLY IMPROVED AND ENLARGED

INFALLIBLE

Government Counterfeit Detector,

AT SIGHT.

THE ONLY INFALLIBLE METHOD OF DETECTING COUNTER-
FEIT, SPURIOUS, AND ALTERED BANK NOTES,
GOVERNMENT BONDS, ETC.,

APPLICABLE TO ALL BANKS IN THE

UNITED STATES AND CANADAS,

AS NOW IN CIRCULATION OR THAT MAY BE ISSUED,

WITH

GENUINE DESIGNS FROM THE ORIGINAL GOVERNMENT
PLATES.

BY AUTHORITY FROM THE

United States Treasury Department, and the American, National, and Continental
Bank Note Cos., New York and Boston.

THIRD EDITION, REVISED AND CORRECTED.

BOSTON, MASS., AND WASHINGTON, D. C.:

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No. 30 Hanover St., Boston, to whom all orders should be addressed.

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INTRODUCTION.

HAVING had unlimited experience in the detection of counterfeit and altered bank-notes, I felt the necessity of placing this knowledge within the reach of all; consequently, in June, 1864, I published the first edition of "Heath's Counterfeit Detector," which met with such favor from the public that it reached the enormous sale of twenty-five thousand copies, and would have far exceeded this number, had not the whole currency of the country been changed to what is commonly known as greenbacks and national bank-bills. This change gave apparent security for a time, and it was confidently believed that the counterfeiter's "occupation was gone." But this delusion was suddenly dispelled by the appearance in our midst of counterfeit greenbacks, so nicely executed that they were passed over the counters of our leading banks as genuine notes, and in fact to a great extent over the entire country. This, together with the numerous and dangerous counterfeits of the new national currency, induced the author to apply to the Secretary of the United States Treasury for certain cuts and dies used on the greenbacks and other national bills. This all-important request led the department to thoroughly investigate the matter, inquiring into the practicability of granting it. The officers of the leading Bank-Note

Engraving Companies were consulted upon the subject, and after a thorough investigation, permission was granted, on condition that the dies should be so mutilated as to prevent all possibility of counterfeiters making any use of them in their nefarious business, and yet preserving the symmetry of the work.

I am, therefore, through the kindness of the Secretary of the Treasury, enabled in this new edition to give fac-simile cuts and dies from nearly all the Government issues, thus placing in the hands of all the means of detecting the most skilfully prepared counterfeits that can be executed.

The object of this work is to furnish the public with a *standard guide*, and, in a comprehensive form, the means of detecting Counterfeit Bank-Notes at sight, — the same means employed by Engravers, Brokers, Cashiers, and other experts. Many counterfeits are such exact imitations of the genuine that no *description* can enable one to detect them. The only sure protection, then, is to possess the power of judging the *genuineness of the note* by the *quality of the work*. This knowledge has been reduced to fixed principles, so clear and simple that any one, with the aid of the microscope glass, can understand and apply them.

The general principle upon which the detection of counterfeits is based is that *all parts of genuine notes are engraved by machinery*, — with some exceptions hereafter named, — while *all parts of counterfeit notes are engraved by hand*, with exceptions hereafter given.

The machines employed in engraving are very elaborate and expensive, thus placing them beyond the reach of counterfeiters, who, even if they had the capital, would hardly risk investing from \$75,000 to \$150,000 in an illegitimate business, which might be taken from them at any moment by the officers of the law. The size and weight of such apparatus would also prevent concealment.

The work executed by the regular Bank-Note Company is of great beauty and perfection; and in all its parts mathematically

and geometrically exact. The success of counterfeiters in circulating their spurious issues is not at all due to any excellence of work that would deceive a practised eye, but to the general ignorance of the public as to what constitutes good and poor engraving. So general is this ignorance, that it is rare to meet a man who knows the object or character of the beautiful devices found upon every bank-note, and which are its only safeguard against counterfeiting.

In the engravings of this work will be found a *standard of excellence*, with which all genuine work will favorably compare; while counterfeits will fail to stand the test. A careful comparison will reveal their defects, — defects which will never be found in genuine work. Some works of similar character to this have attempted to give specimens of counterfeit engraving by means of wood-cuts. This, however, is impossible, as there is no standard for counterfeits, varying as they do from poor to excellent.

The various kinds of work will be fully described. They consist of : —

1. Geometrical Lathe Work.
2. Ruling Engine Work.
3. Vignettes.
4. Solid Print.
5. Minor Rules.

Then will be added : —

6. Altered Bank-Notes.
7. General Directions.
8. Particular Directions.
9. Remarks.
10. Counterfeits.

The labor and expense of getting up this *new* work has been very great, and I assure the public that I have neither spared time nor money in perfecting it, so that I could present to them a *standard* work, not only worthy of the title it bears, but a sure safeguard against all classes of counterfeits.

In conclusion, I cannot refrain from expressing my gratitude to the Hon. Hugh McCulloch, the able banker and Ex-Secretary of the Treasury; Hon. Wm. E. Chandler, his assistant and executive officer; Gen. F. E. Spinner, U. S. Treasurer, whose bold, inimitable signature is better known than that of any American now living; to Mr. McCartee, of the Printing Bureau, Mr. Casilear, Chief of the Engraving Division, and Col. Whitley, Chief of Secret Service of the Treasury Department, as well as to the officers of the American, National, and Continental Bank-Note Companies, and many others, whose suggestions have been of great value to the author.

LABAN HEATH.

COUNTERFEIT DETECTOR.



GEOMETRICAL LATHE WORK.

[*Cannot be Successfully Imitated.*]

ALL the figures on bank-notes, of circles, ovals, squares, etc., and upon which the denomination is usually placed (see Plates 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5), are composed entirely of a *network of fine lines*, crossing each other at such angles and distances as to produce the desired effect. This *fine line* is the characteristic of this description of engraving, and in genuine work can be traced by means of a lens throughout the figure, never breaking or losing itself in another line, or pursuing any irregularity whatever. This line is usually white, on a black or green ground, or sometimes red, but may be a black, green, or red line on white.

Plate 4, shows the beautiful lathe work, on the right end of the backs of the \$10, \$20, \$50, and \$100 National Currency Notes ; they are printed

in green, the same color used for the bills. A careful comparison of any suspicious note of the above denomination (with the aid of a lens) will at once determine its character. This line is produced by the Geometrical Lathe, a wonderful and beautiful engine, invented by Mr. Asa Spencer, of Connecticut, and first introduced into general use in 1818-19. The patterns produced by the geometrical lathe are of every conceivable variety of form and figure; but this *fine line* is the characteristic of them all. The lathe does not engrave its patterns directly upon the bank-note plate, but upon pieces of soft steel one-eighth of an inch thick. This piece is then hardened by a peculiar process, and then a cylinder of soft steel is rolled over it by means of a powerful machine called the Transfer Press, and the engraving is transferred to the cylinder. This cylinder is then hardened, and is capable of transferring the same design to the bank-note plate, by means of the Transfer Press. *In counterfeit engraving, on the contrary, the design is engraved directly upon the plate*, and will fail in two ways. First, it will be impossible to produce the *perfect line* of the genuine, and the effect to the naked eye will be a more or less dull and sunken appearance, and sometimes a "scratchy" look. The figure will also be darker or lighter in spots, because the lines will be sometimes heavier and sometimes lighter. The lens will also show the lines to be imperfect; some-

times broken, irregular in size, and irregular in their course ; and, second, it will be impossible to produce two dies exactly alike. In the genuine plate, when two dies occur alike, both are "transferred" from the same cylinder and *must* be alike ; but in the counterfeit, each being separately engraved, and by hand, it is *impossible* to produce two exactly alike. An examination of the plates showing the more frequent forms of geometrical lathe dies will show the beautiful, clear, raised impression produced by the correct lines of the genuine engraving. Sometimes the whole face of a note, except the vignettes and dies, will be *tinted* a pale red or other color. This tint is composed of fine curved or looped lines, running across the whole face of the bill, and is done by the geometrical lathe. In the genuine it will be perfect in the lines and in the shades, like all lathe work, as described above ; and the counterfeits will have the same imperfections, in the lines and in the shades, before described. In all the Government issues (with the exception of the old fractional currency now nearly obsolete) the geometric lathe work is largely used, constituting the chief test of genuineness. *This should be made a particular study* by carefully examining the plates, both with the lens and the naked eye. The student will thus become familiar with genuine and perfect work.

RULING ENGINE WORK.

THE *fine line* is also the characteristic of this kind of work; but the lines, instead of forming circles, are *parallel*. This work is always used for the *shading of letters* (see Plates 6 and 11), and forms a perfectly even pale gray shade. The lines are usually very fine in genuine work, so that the shading appears light. It may, however, be dark and yet be genuine.

The engraving is produced and transferred in the same way as the geometrical lathe work, and the shade will always be uniform, — no part darker than another, — the lines will all be perfect, and the spaces between them exact. They may be horizontal, i. e., directly across the plate, or diagonal, running crosswise the plate. In the counterfeit, this work, like all other, is engraved upon the plate by hand, aided sometimes, perhaps, by some simple and imperfect machinery.

Consisting of the fine line, like the geometrical lathe work, it will fail in the same particulars; namely, will be more or less dull and sunken, looking as though done with a lead-pencil, and may also have the “scratchy” appearance; and,

second, it will be *impossible* to produce two letters with exactly the same shade. The first letters of the name will be lighter or darker than the middle or last ones. The lens will show the lines to be more or less coarse and uneven, frequently breaking, and sometimes ending too soon, as seen in Counterfeit Plates.

The lines are also liable to be crooked, — not perfectly parallel. Fine specimens of Ruling Engine work will be found on Plates 6 and 11. It is generally used, as there, for the shading of names of Banks, and also for the names of Town, State, etc. It is also used for the large letters across the face of some notes, indicating the denomination of the bill.

For the purpose of more fully illustrating the difference between genuine and counterfeit engraving, we have at great trouble and expense obtained counterfeit plates, engraved by counterfeiters, and taken from them at the time of their arrest. (See Plates 12, 13, and 14.) Giving impressions of counterfeit \$100, \$20, and \$10 National Bank Notes, front and back.

By comparing the counterfeits with Plate 4, "Right End of Backs," Plate 7, vignettes on right ends front, Plate 8, left end back of \$10, and right end back of \$20, and Plate 9, right end back of \$100; you will readily notice the differ-

ence between *genuine* and *counterfeit* work, by strictly adhering to the different rules laid down in this work.

VIGNETTES.

[*Can be Imitated.*]

THE three kinds of work previously described are always and invariably *machine work* in genuine bills, and therefore *cannot* be imitated successfully by the means in the hands of counterfeiters. Vignettes may be classed as the *artistic* part of bank-note engraving, as the greater part of it is done by hand, and in all genuine work by first-class artists. Water and sky are sometimes done with the ruling engine, and when they are, come under ruling work, and cannot be successfully imitated. The only thing required for a first-class vignette is a first-class artist; but as such artists receive high rates of compensation, and can usually find plenty of employment from the regular companies, counterfeiters can offer little temptation to induce them to work for them, and there is also little temptation for artists to become counterfeiters. It is therefore *rare* to see fine vignettes on counterfeit notes. That good work is *sometimes* found upon such issues is, however, not to be denied; and some works of a similar character to this have taught people to rely

too much upon the character of the vignettes. Much is said about the appearance of the eyes, hair, skin, drapery, fingers, toes, etc., leading people to suppose these are infallible "guides." The Plates 5 and 7, give fine specimens of first-class vignettes, which will be readily recognized by the reader as belonging on the different denominations of National bills, and all vignettes which fail to compare well with these should cause the note to be carefully examined; but the style of vignette should not be allowed to overturn judgment based upon the work described in the first four sections. If that be all genuine, an ordinary vignette cannot make the bill counterfeit, and if that be counterfeit, no vignette can make the bill genuine. The vignettes on the backs of the \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, and \$100 National Currency Notes are taken from historical paintings from the U. S. Capitol at Washington, which are exceedingly lifelike and beautiful. The engraving on the back of the \$5 is the landing of Columbus; on the back of the \$10 is De Soto discovering the Mississippi; on the back of the \$20, the baptism of Pocahontas; on the back of the \$50, the embarkation of the Pilgrims; on that of the \$100, the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Being under the necessity of mutilating all the dies furnished by the U. S. Treasury Department, as referred to in the Introduction, I have taken the right end of back vignette of \$5 National Currency, and the right end of face of \$5 National Currency, and the left-hand half of

the \$10 and the right-hand half of the \$20, also, the left-hand half of the \$50 and the right-hand half of the \$100, and put them together, to preserve their symmetry, instead of mutilating the entire back. (See Plates 8, 9 and 11.)

On the centre of Plate 10 will be seen the vignette which appears on the left-hand end of the \$5 greenback. At the right of it is the vignette of the \$20 greenback; at the left is vignette on right end of \$10 greenback. The portraits in Plates 1, 2, and 3 were executed by men at the head of their profession, and are exceedingly lifelike and beautiful. Counterfeiters oftener fail in portraits than in out-door scenes, — giving them generally a sunken and lifeless expression. The vignettes upon the Government issues consist of out-door scenes, historical pictures, portraits, and allegorical figures. All are of exceeding beauty, and it is not probable that counterfeiters will ever succeed in successfully imitating such work. Specimens of all are given, — the splendid portraits of Chase and Hamilton, on Plate 2, executed by the National Bank Note Co., of New York, cannot fail to strike the eye of the most casual observer. Yet the portrait of Hamilton has been dangerously imitated on a counterfeit \$50 greenback. But it should be understood that, however perfect, a counterfeit cannot be the same as the original. This portrait of Hamilton, for instance, has been engraved but once, and all impressions of it upon Government notes, or in this book, are exact copies

of that one engraving, being all made from it by the transferring process already described. The same is true of all vignettes upon Government issues. A comparison, therefore, of a supposed counterfeit with the specimens in this book will show whether it be exactly the same or not.

SOLID PRINT.

[*Can be Imitated.*]

IN genuine work the lettering is done by a first-class artist, who makes it his exclusive employment, and therefore arrives at a high degree of perfection. The name of the engraving company is always engraved upon the genuine with great care and accuracy. It will be found on the upper or lower margin of the bill. In counterfeits, it is more or less irregular and uneven. The chief use of solid print is to prevent alterations, as will be hereafter explained. It is classed as capable of imitation, because a good artist can engrave it for counterfeiters, if so disposed, as well as for the regular engraving companies. A specimen of solid print will be seen at the bottom

of Plate 6. Much has been said in some "Detectors" about the lettering of "Promise to pay," etc., as being nearly infallible. The truth is, however, that this is of little value, being frequently very neatly done in counterfeit notes. A portion of the new Treasury Notes have the denomination, etc., in very fine letters across a portion of the face of the bill, Two dollars, Two dollars, U. S., U. S., United States Legal Tender Note, United States Legal Tender Note, etc., Ten, Ten, Ten, etc. This, in the genuine, produces a perfectly even shade of black, green, red, or otherwise, according to the color of ink used; but in the counterfeit cannot be so well produced; and, therefore, the shade will be lighter in some places, and darker in others. This is *nearly* infallible.





MINOR RULES.

WE will now give some indications which, though not infallible, are important.

Printing.

Genuine bank-notes are always printed with great care. The plate is covered with ink, which is then carefully wiped off, excepting what remains in the lines of the engraving; the impression is then taken with a powerful press, with great care and accuracy. This gives a clear and beautiful impression, which will be more or less wanting in counterfeits.

Ink.

The ink used in genuine bank-note printing is of peculiar quality, and very difficult for counterfeiters to obtain. If black, it gives a clear, glossy

impression, without any *smutty* appearance, such as is sometimes seen in counterfeits. The green ink used in Government work is *almost* impossible to imitate; and the red and other colors are almost as difficult. Genuine ink of any color has a more or less clear and *glossy* appearance, while counterfeit inks look dull and muddy.

Paper.

Genuine bank-notes are printed upon paper composed of linen, and it is usually of good quality. It varies much in thickness, it being sometimes very thin. Persons who are not acquainted with paper sometimes pronounce the *thin* paper poor.

It is not impossible for counterfeiters to procure good paper. Out of twelve counterfeit notes now lying before us, four are upon *very* poor paper, two upon rather poor paper, and *six* upon *very good* paper; one at least of the latter is upon paper of the *first quality*. It will be seen, therefore, that the paper, though important, is not infallible.

Signatures.

The only thing counterfeit about a bill sometimes is the signatures, the notes having been

stolen before they were signed. There can be, of course, no sure protection against this for all. Those who are well acquainted with the signatures of the officers of the bank where bills are stolen may not be deceived, as imitated signatures have a more or less cramped and unsteady appearance; but those who live at a distance cannot possess this knowledge.

ALTERED BANK-NOTES.

BANK-NOTES are altered in two ways; first, by raising the denomination; second, by changing a genuine bill on a broken bank to a good bank.

Denominations are altered, first, *by pasting*. Figures or letters of larger denomination are pasted over the denominations of the note to be altered, first scraping the genuine until thin. This can frequently be discovered by simply examining it with a little care, and always by holding the suspected note up to the light, when, if pasted, the pasted parts will be darker, because thicker. A counterfeit \$50 greenback has been recently made to look like a genuine, by pasting on a portrait of Hamilton cut from a genuine \$2 greenback.

Second, *by taking out the denomination of the genuine with an acid, and printing in a higher with a counterfeit die.* In this case, the ink will not be the same as the original, as explained under that head; neither will the work compare with the original. If solid print, it will not be as exact and perfect; and if the original is shaded, the shading of the counterfeit part will have the faults described in Ruling work. For instance, the words ONE DOLLAR may be changed to FIVE DOLLARS. In that case the *five* will be engraved by hand, and the *dollar* by genuine means; an S must also be added, and the work will appear crowded.

Another indication is that the acid will spread a little, taking out more than the counterfeiter intended, so that parts of the neighboring letters will be more or less injured. The paper, also, will be either bleached or stained by the acid, as can be seen most plainly upon the back.

In the United States bills, or greenbacks, the ones, twos, and threes have a circle of green lines radiating from the denomination. This circle can be found on no larger notes than threes, if genuine. This is an additional safeguard against altering United States notes. The solid print will also be found defective, as described in Section Fifth.

The second kind of alteration — that of broken banks to good ones — sometimes requires a close

examination to detect them ; but a good understanding of the principles here taught will secure any one from deception. To make this change, the *name of the Bank* and signatures of the officers *always* have to be removed, and new ones inserted, and generally the *name of the Town* and sometimes of the *State* are also changed. These must be removed by acid, and the work inserted will be counterfeit, and will be recognized as such by an application of the principles already taught. If the letters are shaded, it will be done by hand and not by the ruling engine, and will have the imperfections described in Ruling work. If solid print, the counterfeit will have the faults given under that head. Sometimes only a part of the name is changed, and then the contrast between the counterfeit and the part not changed is more evident. There will also be marks of the acid, the same marks mentioned above, and the counterfeit signatures are apt to be faded, from some acid remaining in the paper, after removing the original signature.

GENERAL DIRECTIONS.

In receiving bank-bills, first look at the general appearance of the bill, — casting your eye across it, — and if anything is wrong, it will probably catch your eye. Then examine the various parts more perfectly, examining the geometrical lathe work. Then examine the shading of the letters, — the ruling engine work, — and look for any indication of alteration in the title or denomination of the note. Examine the Vignettes and Portraits, noticing whether their style and perfection compare well with the standard work of the plates, and whether they are exactly the same. If there is engine ruling in the sky or water, you will have an additional proof. An examination of the Solid Print and engravers' names will confirm the decision, whatever it may be ; and the Printing, Ink, and Paper may also be considered in making a full decision. Such an examination of a note, with a very little practice, and a frequent reference to these standard plates, will secure any man of ordinary observation and intelligence against deception.

PARTICULAR DIRECTIONS.

FOR DETECTING COUNTERFEIT GREENBACKS, NATIONAL CURRENCY NOTES, AND FRACTIONAL CURRENCY.

IN receiving the note, look at the general appearance, and if it is not perfectly satisfactory, compare it with the corresponding work in the book, as you will find parts of all the circulating notes (Greenbacks, National, and Fractional Currency, with the exception of \$500 and \$1,000) in this work, and if, on comparison, it does not come up fully to the standard, it must be counterfeit. One of the most successful counterfeits ever executed is the \$50 U. S. Greenback, which has deceived some of the most experienced. Certain parts of the genuine work are in this book, on Plate No. 2; and a person, having the book and magnifier, can, upon comparison, discover the difference at once.

In presenting to the public two plates of Serip, or Fractional Currency, we wish to say that the 50 cent Serip (which is the first on the plates) is the best executed counterfeit ever issued. It was engraved by a man who was an expert in the art, as thousands who have been made dupes to his nefarious designs can testify. He was finally arrested by the Secret Service Division, convicted, his plates secured, and his illegal business broken up.

REMARKS.

WE will add here a few suggestions, hints, and items, which, although important, could not be added elsewhere without confusing the mind of the learner.

Genuine Dies on Counterfeit Bills.

A genuine lathe die will sometimes be seen on a counterfeit bill. The die so used may have been stolen, although that is very difficult to do, as all such work is guarded by the best of safes and other protections.

These dies, however, do not render the *other* work genuine. The ruling of the letters, solid print, in short all the other work on the bill will be counterfeit,—and a *single piece of counterfeit work* condemns the bill.

Check Backs.

The work upon the back of bills is usually done by the geometrical lathe, and therefore comes under Geometrical lathe-work.

A beautiful specimen of check back is seen upon the Government notes, the "greenbacks." In attempting to alter such bills, the acid strikes through and destroys part of the back, which cannot be replaced. If the alteration be in the denomination, it will have to be altered in the back, also, as it is usually expressed there, and such an alteration would be likely to stain through upon the face.

It will sometimes be noticed that two bank-notes that should be alike differ somewhat in size, one being a little shorter than the other; and this may excite some suspicion. It is owing, however, to a little shrinkage of the paper, after printing, and happens as often to genuine bills as any.

Piecing.

Some counterfeiters make ten bills of nine, by cutting a counterfeit note into ten pieces; one of these pieces is pasted into a genuine bill, cutting out a piece of the genuine of the same size. In pasting nine genuine bills in this manner, nine pieces are obtained, which, with one piece of counterfeit, will make a tenth bill which is the profit. Banks will redeem the genuine parts of such bills at their fractional value. This operation is not a very successful one, as the difference between the

counterfeit and the genuine will be very evident to any one who possesses a knowledge of the art here taught. To hide this difference, they generally deface the counterfeit part somewhat, and give the note a worn appearance.

The new National Currency, which has wholly taken the place of all other issues, except United States Notes, is supposed by some to be entirely secure from counterfeiting, and, therefore, that no knowledge of detecting will be necessary, and no care in receiving such bills will be required. Such, however, is not the case. It is true that the remarkable excellence and abundance of the work upon the Government and National Currency, and the difficulty of imitating the green, will render counterfeiting very difficult. It should be remembered that this currency offers *great inducements* to counterfeiters, and a successful counterfeit will repay great outlay and care, — for two reasons: first, the greenbacks will go anywhere in the United States, and if a counterfeit becomes known in one State or section, it can be taken to another; while counterfeits on local banks, when once known, are killed; and second, a plate may be prepared to counterfeit the currency of the National Bank in one town, may be run upon that till known, and then with simply a change in the title of the bank, be immediately changed to another bank, and thus, as fast as it becomes known, can go through all the banks in the United States,

thus having an opportunity for *sixteen hundred* changes, thereby increasing the chances of success *sixteen hundred times*.

The fifty cent postal and fractional currency is already freely counterfeited ; yet hundreds of such counterfeits pass without any question, where the application of the first rule in this work would detect the fraud ; the lathe work would condemn them in an instant.

These facts are not mentioned to depreciate our new currency in any way, but to warn the public against a false security, and thus most effectually head off the rascally authors of counterfeit issues, by forewarning and forearming the people. Every man, woman, and child has occasion to handle more or less money ; and if all would possess themselves of the knowledge here taught, counterfeiting would soon become a profitless business. We want to see a knowledge of this art in every place of business,—yes, in every house and cottage in the country. It has long been our business and our pleasure to forewarn and defend the people against the miscreants who tamper with the commercial life-blood of the nation, defrauding the poor, the widows, and the fatherless of their scanty store, and giving to all vexation and loss in place of security and profit ; and we hope to still further disarm and paralyze them, by a more general diffusion of the knowledge of this art, by means of this little work. Vigilant officers of po-

lice may do much to guard the community, but their most painstaking vigilance is not always successful ; while a general knowledge of *detecting bank-notes by the engraving* will root out the very fangs of the *serpent*, — *Counterfeiting*.

COUNTERFEITS.

Plate 13 gives an impression of front and back of counterfeit \$100 National Bank Note. This plate was engraved by "Ulric," one of the most successful counterfeiters known. It has been estimated there has been over *one hundred thousand dollars* of this note in circulation. It deceived many good judges, and a number of our banks were unfortunate enough to receive them.

Plate 14, counterfeit \$20 National Bank Note, front and back, is very liable to deceive, and you cannot be too particular in your examinations.

Plate 15, counterfeit \$10 National Bank Note, front and back, is another very dangerous note, and would deceive many ; by a careful examination with a magnifying glass, and comparing the different parts with *genuine* work found in this

book, you will readily discover the weak points ; always bearing in mind that the art of detecting counterfeits consists *in becoming thoroughly familiar with genuine work, and in bringing any new or untested note to a critical comparison with a plate known to be genuine.*

THE beautiful fine lines required in the engraving of all bank-bills, even in moderately well-executed counterfeits require the aid of the microscope glass, and sometimes a microscope of great power is absolutely indispensable in order to discern the genuine line, and discriminate between the true and the false work. The ordinary magnifying glass now in use by banks has failed, in many instances, to bring out this delicate work sufficiently to detect some of the late skilfully-executed counterfeits. In order, therefore, to meet this difficulty, I have, after much labor, invented a combination Micro-telescopie Glass, and secured letters patent on the same, which is designed for use and sale with the "Detector."

Fig. 1 shows the Glass as put up for sale. Fig. 2 shows it as a microscope. In using it for this purpose, you must have a good light, and have it shine direct on the object you wish to examine, first placing the object on a piece of white paper ; then adjust the glass to the right focus by sliding the smaller section. Fig. 3 shows the section used for examining notes and other things of a like description. Fig. 4 shows it as used for a spy-glass.

COUNTERFEIT DETECTOR.

This glass is a fine magnifier, a powerful microscope, and spy glass. By a simple change, this instrument is convertible into either one of the above-named glasses, and is very useful at all times, and for other purposes than the detection of counterfeits, and will be worth the cost for family use, as a microscope.

These glasses, manufactured in Paris, will be furnished by mail, pre-paid, at the following prices : —

Lower Section or Magnifying Portion, \$1.50

Upper Section combining Microscopic and Telescopic, \$3.50.

Making the whole “Combination Glass” \$5.00

If only one section is wanted at first, the other portion can be ordered at any future time.

Fig. 2.

As a Compound Microscope, Magnifying 1000 Diameters.



Fig. 1.

Compact in Box.



Fig. 4.

As a Field Glass.

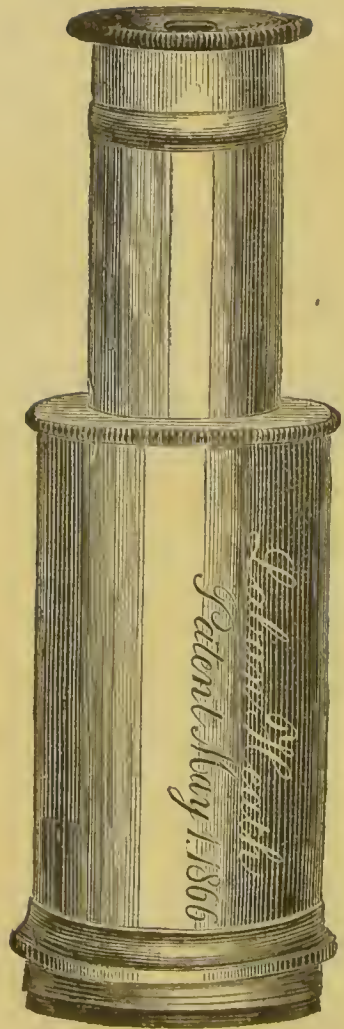
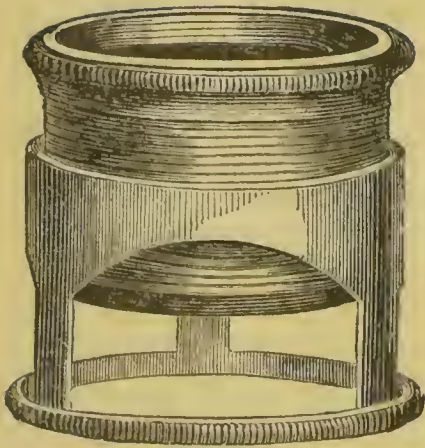


Fig. 3.



For Examining
Seeds & Bank Notes.

PATENTED 20 JUNE 1877

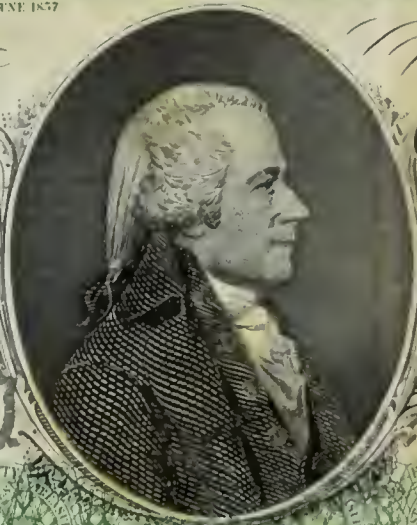
SERIES 1.

UNITED STATES

Promise to
pay to bearer

FIFTY

DOLLARS



WASHINGTON

G. B. Chittenden

RECEIVER OF THE TREASURY

S. D. Finney

TREASURER OF THE UNITED STATES

PAYABLE AT THE TREASURY OF THE U.S. AT NEW YORK

THIS NOTE IS A
LEGAL TENDER
FOR ALL
DEBTS PUBLIC AND PRIVATE,
EXCEPT DUES OF IMPORTS AND
INTEREST ON PUBLIC DEBT,
AND IS EXCHANGEABLE FOR
U.S.
SIX PER CENT TWENTY YEARS'
BONDS, REDEEMABLE AT THE
PLEASURE OF THE
UNITED STATES AFTER FIVE YEARS

NATIONAL BANK NOTE COMPANY

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.

U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
WASHINGTON, D. C.,

The undersigned having examined the Proof Shoots and Platos of Hoath's "Government Detector," concur in the utility of his system, and cheerfully recommend his work.

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J. B. Grinnell, M. C., 4th Dist., Iowa.

T. W. Ferry, Banker, and M. C., 4th Dist., Michigan.

Charles Upsom, M. C., 2d Dist., Michigan.

Columbus Deleno, President 1st National Bank, Mount Vernon,
and M. C., 13th Dist., Ohio.

James M. Ashley, M. C., 10th Dist., Ohio.

Francis C. LeBlond, M. C., 5th Dist., Ohio.

Sidney Clark, M. C., Kansas.

Delos R. Ashley, M. C., Nevada.

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and M. C., 11th Dist., Indiana.

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 Portus Baxter, M. C., 3d Dist., Vermont.
 P. W. Hitchcock, Delegate in Congress, Nebraska.
 W. H. Hooper, " " " Utah.
 Arthur H. Denny, " " " Ter'y of Washington.
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Secretary of the Association of Banks for
the suppression of Counterfeiting.

THE BANKING & COUNTING HOUSE EDITION.

ENLARGED, REVISED, AND CORRECTED.

HEATH'S

INFALLIBLE GOVERNMENT COUNTERFEIT
DETECTOR AT SIGHT.

The only infallible method of detecting counterfeit, spurious and altered Bank Notes, Government Bonds, &c., applicable to all Banks in the United States and Canadas, as now in circulation, or that may be issued: with genuine designs from the original Government plates, by authority from the United States Treasury Department, and the American, National, and Continental Bank-note Cos., New York and Boston, giving a full and complete description of the process of manufacturing Bank-note Plates, treating fully in detail the beautiful Geometrical Lathe Work, Ruling Engine Work, Vignettes, and Solid Print, with rules for the detection of altered Bank Notes; with General and Particular Directions that enable you to discover at once the difference between GENUINE and COUNTERFEIT work.

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The Work contains impressions from the MOST DANGEROUS counterfeit Plates now in possession of the Government; also, about fifty of the most beautiful Government devices, including "Vignettes," "Dies," etc.

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Introduction.	McCulloch's Letter.
Geometrical Lathe Work.	Ruling Engine Work.
Vignettes.	Solid Print.
Process of Engraving Bank Notes.	Minor Rules.
Altered Bank Notes.	General Directions.
Particular Directions.	Remarks.
Microscopio or Magnifying Glass.	United States Legal Tender Notes.
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PLATE II. — Portraits and Dies on Legal Tender Notes.

PLATE III. — Portraits, Vignette, and Dies.

PLATE IV. — Vignettes.

PLATE V. — Right end of Backs of National Bank Notes.

PLATE VI. — Vignettes and Dies on National Bank Notes.

PLATE VII. — Right end of Front and Back of \$5 National Bank Note.

PLATE VIII. — Vignettes on National Bank Notes, — beautiful allegorical designs.

PLATE IX. — Sectional parts of Backs of National Bank Notes, taken from the great Historical Paintings in the Rotunda of the Capitol at Washington.

PLATE X. — Right and left ends of \$1000 National Bank Note, representing the entry of Gen. Scott and army into the City of Mexico, and the Capitol at Washington. A Section of left end of Back of \$1000 Note, representing Washington resigning his commission. A Section of right end of Back of \$500 National Bank Note, representing the surrender of Gen. Burgoyne. Left and right ends of Front of \$500 Note; Allegorical

representation of Peace, the arrival of "The Sirins" in 1838, and the beautiful 500 Dic.

PLATE XI. — Specimens of Lettering.

PLATE XII. — Counterfeit \$100 National Bank Note, Front and Back. This plate was engraved by "Ulric," one of the most successful counterfeiters known. It has been estimated that there has been over one hundred thousand dollars of this note in circulation. This plate alone is worth more than the price of the Book.

PLATE XIII. — \$20 Counterfeit National Bank Note, Front and Back.

PLATE XIV. — \$10 Counterfeit National Bank Note, Front and Back.

PLATE XV. — \$10 Counterfeit Legal Tender Note, Front and Back. We consider the back a very fine specimen of counterfeit work, and very liable to deceive.

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AND COMPLETE HISTORY

OF ALL THE

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N. B. — Send for descriptive Circular.

LABAN HEATH & CO.,
30 Hanover Street,
Boston, Mass

10 TEN 10 X 10 TEN 10

NATIONAL CURRENCY.

10 TEN 10 X 10 TEN 10

TEN

18 This Note IS SECURED BY BONDS OF THE UNITED STATES DEPOSITED with the U.S. Treasurer at Washington.

Wm. B. Chittenden Register of the Treasury *S. A. Linn* Treasurer of the United States.

Philadelphia, Pa. **FIRST** Feb. 20th 1864.

NATIONAL BANK OF PHILADELPHIA

Will pay **TEN DOLLARS** to Bearer on demand.

PENNSYLVANIA

Cash! Pres!

1752

10 TEN 10 X 10 TEN 10 10 TEN 10 X 10 TEN 10

AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO. N.Y.

NATIONAL CURRENCY

THIS NOTE IS RECEIVABLE AT ALL PARTS OF THE UNITED STATES, IN PAYMENT OF ALL TAXES AND EXCISES AND ALL OTHER DUES TO THE UNITED STATES, EXCEPT DUTIES ON IMPORTS AND ALSO FOR ALL SALARIES AND OTHER DUES AND DEMANDS OWING BY THE UNITED STATES TO INDIVIDUALS, CORPORATIONS & ASSOCIATIONS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES, EXCEPT INTEREST ON PUBLIC DEBT.

10

PENNSYLVANIA

VIRGIL LIBERTY INDEPENDENCE

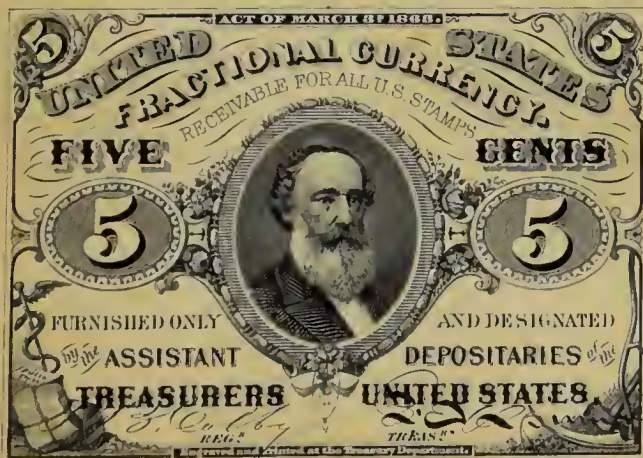
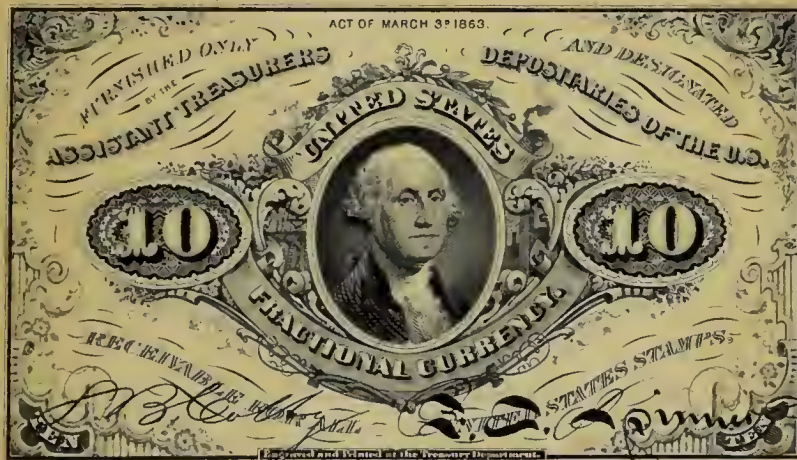
DO NOT DISCOVERING THE MISSISSIPPI.

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10

NATIONAL CURRENCY





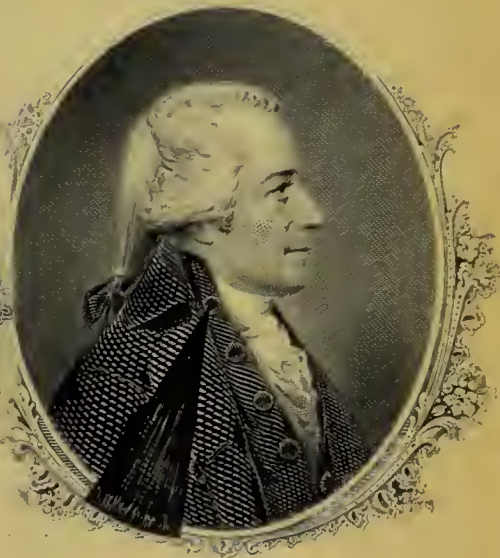
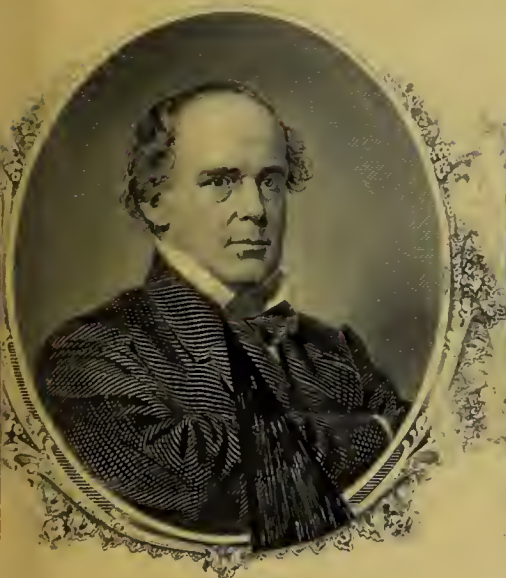
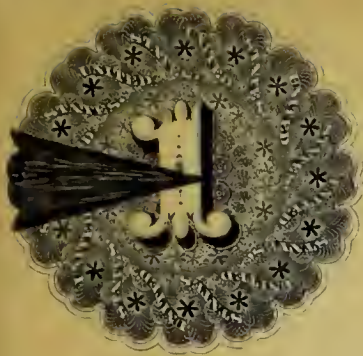


Plate 3.

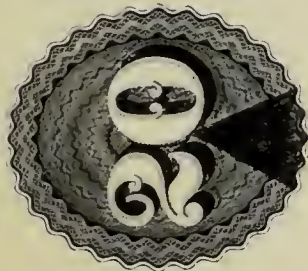
\$ 10 National Currency



\$ 5 Green Back



\$ 20 Green Back



\$ 10 Green Back



American Book, Note Co., New-York & Boston

\$ 5 Green Back



\$ 10 Green Back





Section of Large Figure on
\$2 National Currency



\$2 National Currency



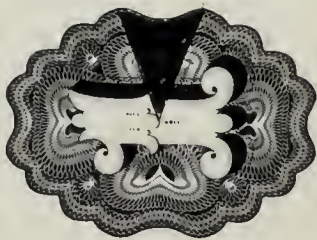
NATIONAL BANK NOTE GREEN 10000

\$1 National Currency



AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO. 9825

\$1 National Currency



AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO.

Plate 6.

Bank of Michigan

ONE DOLLAR

TWO DOLLARS

ONE DOLLAR

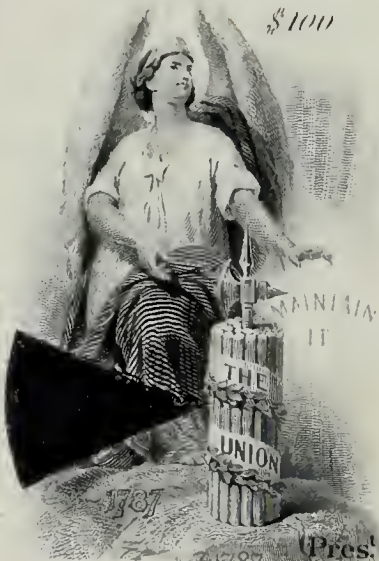
Plate 7.

Vignettes on National Currency Notes

\$10



\$100



\$20.



\$50.



Plate 8.

*Left end of Back \$ 10
National Currency*



*Right end of Back \$ 20
National Currency*

Plate *Q*

*Left end of Back \$ 50
National Currency*



AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO. NEW-YORK & BOSTON.

*Right end of Back \$ 100
National Currency*

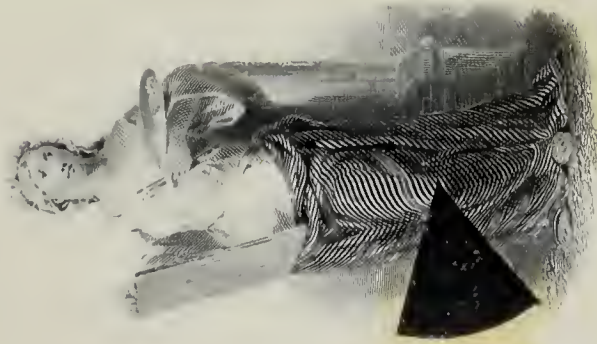


AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO. NEW-YORK & BOSTON.

American Bank Note Co. New-York & Boston.



\$10 Green Back



\$5 Green Back



\$20 Green Back



PAYABLE AT
THE TREASURY OF THE U.S.
AT NEW YORK

Right end of face of \$5 National Currency.



ENGRAVED BY THE CONTINENTAL BANK NOTE COMPANY, NEW YORK.



Right end of back vignette \$5 National Currency

